

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of discriminating between orders, comprising:
evaluating a queue of orders ~~based on to determine~~ whether each prescription within the
order ~~can be filled~~ is fillable in an automated manner; and
determining a set of workstations for each prescription based on said evaluating, wherein
if the prescription is fillable in an automated manner, said set of workstations excludes a
pharmacist review workstation and otherwise said set of workstations includes a pharmacist
review workstation.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising selecting an appropriate
sized end user container, printing and applying a label to said container, inserting the labeled
container into a carrier, and routing the carrier among the determined set of workstations.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said routing includes routing the carrier
from a dispensing workstation, to an imaging workstation, and to a capping workstation.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 additionally comprising tracking multiple
prescriptions that belong to one order and grouping all the prescriptions that belong to one order
for shipping.
6. (Original) The method of claim 4 additionally comprising routing the carrier to a
packing workstation where a patient specific document is printed and inserted into a labeled bag
along with the patient's prescription.
- 7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a prescription filling line of the type having automated equipment and non-automated equipment for filling prescriptions, comprising:

evaluating a queue of orders ~~based on to determine~~ whether each prescription within each order ~~can be filled~~ is fillable in an automated manner;

selecting an appropriate sized end user container;

printing and applying a label to said container;

inserting the labeled container into a carrier;

routing the carrier to a prescription filling station;

routing the carrier to an imaging workstation; and

where said order has been filled by automated equipment, routing each carrier for said order to a packing workstation without a review by a pharmacist, and

where said order has at least one prescription filled by non-automated equipment, routing each carrier for said order to a pharmacist workstation before routing each carrier to the packing workstation.

10. (New) A system for filing a prescription, said system comprising:

a control computer in communication with a plurality of workstations comprising a first prescription filling station comprising automated equipment and a second prescription filling station comprising non-automated equipment, said control computer configured to:

evaluate a queue of orders to determine whether each prescription within respective orders is fillable by said automated equipment; and

control routing of the prescription, based on said evaluating, either to one set of workstations that includes the first prescription filling station comprising automated equipment but is independent of a pharmacist review workstation or to a different set of workstations that includes the second prescription filling station comprising non-automated equipment and that further includes a pharmacist review workstation.

11. (New) The system of claim 10 further comprising one or more carriers corresponding with a respective one or more prescriptions, said carriers configured to transport a respective one or more containers throughout the system.

12. (New) The system of claim 11 wherein the plurality of workstations further comprise an imaging workstation comprising an imaging means configured to take and store an image of the contents of respective carriers.

13. (New) The system of claim 12 wherein the imaging workstation further comprises a near infrared imaging means.

14. (New) The system of claim 11 wherein respective carriers comprise an insert configured to enable the carrier to accommodate a container of varying diameter.

15. (New) The system of claim 11 wherein respective carriers comprise an identifier configured to store information associated with the corresponding prescription.

16. (New) The system of Claim 15 wherein the identifier comprises a radio frequency identification tag.

17. (New) The system of claim 10 wherein the plurality of workstations further comprise some combination of a dispensing workstation, a capping workstation and a packing workstation.